

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Shinji INOUE et al.

Group Art Unit : 2169

Appl. No. : 10/596,780

Examiner : T.V. VO

(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/019232)

I.A. Filed : December 22, 2004

Confirmation No. : 1404

For : DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS AND DATA PROCESSING METHOD

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In response to the Official Action of November 6, 2008, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on February 6, 2009, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the following remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this Reply.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this Reply.